



The “Mighty Eighth” Voice

The newsletter of Headquarters Eighth Air Force

July 2001

Volume 1 • Issue 2

QUICK TAKES

Hometown news releases

The Hometown News Release, DD Form 2266, is a quick and simple way to tell folks in your hometown about your recent move, promotion, award or other success. This service is available to all active-duty, guard, reserve members, and DOD civilians. Stop by the Public Affairs office, Room 131B to fill one out.

Promotion list released early

For the second year in a row, the Air Force will release the list of the service's newest staff sergeants earlier than expected. The release, which normally happens the first week of August, will now take place the first duty hour of July 19. Although the list of promotees will be released early, actual promotions will not begin until Sept. 1.

Historical Society Reunion

The 8th Air Force Historical Society holds their 27th annual reunion in Irving, Texas at the Harvey Hotel Oct. 24-29. The society will sponsors two awards, The Pursuit of Excellence Award and The Ira Eaker Outstanding Airmanship Award, that will be awarded to 8th Air Force active-duty members. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Rick DelaHaya at DSN 781-2156.

In this issue

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| New secretary's views..... | 2 |
| Chief's thoughts..... | 3 |
| Sports Day 2001..... | 5 |
| New 608th AIS/CC..... | 7 |



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rory Drew

Tech. Sgt. Julius Flye Jr., 608th Air Communications Squadron, dishes up barbecued sausage during the end-of-exercise cookout During Roving Sands 2001. The cookout was sponsored by the 8th Air Force Booster Club.

Sharpening the Sword!

“Mighty Eighth” wraps up Roving Sands 2001

By Master Sgt. Rick DelaHaya
8th Air Force Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, LA—For more than 10 days, coalition warfighters planned and executed a comprehensive mock campaign against a distant aggressor as part of Roving Sands 2001 that concluded here June 24.

Working behind barbed wire fences and closed doors at Eighth Air Force's Combined Air Operations Center—Training, aerospace leaders from the Air Force, Navy, Army, and Marines, along with coa-

lition forces from Germany, the United Kingdom, Turkey and the Netherlands, came together, integrating as a single team to defeat a simulated hostile country.

“This is the future of warfare and aerospace campaigns,” said Lt. Gen. Tom Keck, 8th Air Force commander and Combined Forces Air Component Commander during the exercise. “We’ll never go it alone...this was a key exercise for us in that we were able to integrate all our sister services and allied partners into one premier force. We executed our part of Roving Sands, but the importance of this exercise was that everyone was trained and

● See **WRAP UP**, page 6

Global Presence...Global Influence...Global Responsibility

A letter from the new SECAF

This is a message from the Honorable James G. Roche, Air Force secretary, to the men and women of the Air Force.

TO THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

I was recently sworn in as your 20th secretary of the Air Force and became, on that day, a proud member of a magnificent team of active duty airmen, guardsmen, reservists, and civilian employees. You have earned the admiration of our nation, the respect of the world, and the promise of a bright future.

I already can tell you that you should be enormously proud of your achievements, from combat operations over Iraq and the Balkans to your recent validation of the Expeditionary Aerospace Force concept. In the realm of aerospace power, you fly the best, train the best, and maintain the best. As you put it: "No One Comes Close."

We must now turn our focus to the journey ahead, and be responsive to this new century's emerging security environment. I look forward to piloting that journey with you. My focus is on developing new strategies for military aerospace power in this new millennium; improving Air Force retention, professional education and leadership and development; eliminating the inefficiencies in how we do our business; and developing our acquisition policies and processes to ensure innovation and competitive vibrancy within our defense industrial base over the long haul. My

vision is an aerospace future just as remarkable as your admired past: undeniable and global

reconnaissance and strike superiority. My pledge to you is that I will serve the way you do every day, worldwide — with integrity, selflessness and in earnest pursuit of excellence.

In 1963, President Kennedy said of military service: "I can imagine no more rewarding career. And any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I think can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.'" That sentiment rings very true for me. As you know, I am deeply proud of my Navy career. But, today we are in a new century, with new opportunities, new challenges, new capabilities, and vastly different threats to the security of our great nation. In this century, men and women can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: "I serve in the United States Air Force." And now, I am proud to be able to say that too.

Signed
James G. Roche



BAH, base pay rates increase for some ranks on July 1

WASHINGTON (AFPN)—Effective July 1, most servicemembers in the grades E-1 to E-4 with families will see an increase in their tax-free basic housing allowance.

Additionally, airmen in grades E-5 to E-7 with six to 26 years of service will get up to \$59 a month pay raise based on where they fall in the pay chart, also effective July 1, said Air Force officials. People can go to www.dfas.mil/money to determine actual pay increases.

Both rate increases are in accordance with the fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act said Air Force officials.

The NDAA combined the BAH rates for pay grades E-1 through E-4 and recalculated the dependent rate to ensure the median housing profile standard is half the difference between the cost of a two-bedroom apartment and a two-bedroom townhome. As a result, most of the affected BAH rates increased slightly.

People can go on the Internet to www.dtic.mil/perdiem for actual BAH rate increases.

Related Defense Finance and Accounting service links:

www.dfas.mil/money/milpay
www.dfas.mil/money/civpay
www.dfas.mil/money/retired

The "Mighty Eighth" Voice

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Cost of carrying your ID card?...Priceless

**By Chief Master Sgt. Rich Casey
8th Air Force Command Chief**

The only good part about going to the doctor is catching up on those mushy stories you find in the Reader's Digest magazines. You know, those little books found on coffee tables and bookracks at every doctor's office.

During this time of year, Memorial Day, Flag Day, D-Day, and the 4th of July, there are always good stories from, and about, those who walked this military path before us. Stories of bravery or compassion in combat have a way of making us in uniform feel good about our contribution to this great nation.

When I think back on my 26-year career, I find that I have some of my own "real life" stories. Stories which make me proud to serve my country.

One of my favorite "real life" stories occurred in the spring of 1981. My dream of restoring a 1952 Chevy pickup was finally going to come true. All I had to do was fly to Rapid City, South Dakota and drive my prize possession back to my home at March Air Force Base in southern California.

The truck had been sitting in a farmer's field for ten or more years, but the guy I bought it from assured me that with some new tires and a rebuilt engine she would get me home with no problem.

It was early April and already hot in southern California when I left for South Dakota. So, with a lightweight jacket and two hundred dollars in my pocket, I arrived in Rapid City and started my drive back home.

Little did I know that I was heading into one of the worst blizzards Wyoming had experienced in years.

I was also a little ignorant of the fact that 52' pickups only got about 8 miles to the gallon of gas.

So there I was, about 15 miles out of Muddy Gap, Wyoming, out of gas and in the middle of a blizzard, and only a light jacket. Hey, it was 90 degrees in southern California! As if I hadn't made

enough mistakes, I decided to try to walk to Muddy Gap.

Fortunately, a truck driver picked me up about three miles into my trek. I'm sure he still tells the story of the day he picked up this idiot walking in a blizzard with a lightweight jacket on in the middle of Wyoming!

He hesitated to let me in his truck, but once I informed him of my situation and that I was in the Air Force, he gladly welcomed me aboard and deposited me at the local diner in Muddy Gap.

I must have been a sight walking into that diner at six in the morning, red as a beet and covered with snow. The waitress filled me up with coffee and I ordered a big breakfast. After the snow subsided, I stepped to the counter to pay for my breakfast and realized I only had three dollars and two gas credit cards.

My breakfast was as least six dollars as I recall. I tried to explain to the lady at the counter but she was having nothing of it. She went to get the owner, her husband I later discovered. Apparently they had been stiffed before and it wasn't going to happen again.

I pulled out my wallet to show him that I really didn't have any money. As I did, he caught a glimpse of my military ID card. At that very moment his whole attitude changed. He queried me as to where I was stationed and began sharing stories of his days in the Air Force during the Korean War. In a matter of minutes I found myself sitting at a table with this gentleman and five or six of the local men who had breakfast every morning at the diner.

They convinced me I needed to stay put until the snowplows had cleared the roads, but I think it was just a ploy to get me to stay around and listen to their stories. And boy did they have stories!

As they re-lived experiences from their time in the military, some from World War II, some from Korea, I couldn't help but think these men sacrificed so much so we can have the freedoms we enjoy today. I wondered if

fifty years from now that new generation would be as proud of our accomplishments.

Well, five hours later, with a crisp twenty-

dollar bill in my pocket, some gloves and a hat, and a bag full of sandwiches and donuts, the owner of the diner gave me a ride back to my truck. With a can of free gas, I got my 52' Chevy back on the road.

As I crested the hill overlooking the town that had just shown me so much hospitality I couldn't help but get choked up. With its blanket of white snow Muddy Gap looked like something postcards are made of.

This was one of those towns that make America what it is. As I drove past the diner, I saw many waving hands and smiling faces peering through the window.

To this day I can't help but wonder how this trip would have turned out had I not flashed that ID card. The people of Muddy Gap didn't know me, but that ID card made us best friends. That little green card bridged the gap of age, walk of life, rank, specialty, and every other difference between them and I.

The mere fact that I was a fellow airman allowed them to trust me, have faith in my character, and to see me as a person of integrity. They didn't see me as an individual, but as a sum of the values associated with all men and women in military service.

There's no real moral to this story. But, I hope it does cause you to reflect on how you are different because you carry that military ID card. You should be extremely proud of what you do. Rest assured, the American people are!



AFFOR provides vital supplies to forces

Team provides beds, beans and bullets to sustain combat mission

By Master Sgt Rick DelaHaya
8th Air Force Public Affairs

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, LA—During time of war, the Herculean effort required to sustain combat troops in the field rarely receives much attention despite its widely acknowledged importance. Strategy and tactics are easy to understand, but the science of equipping and feeding troops half way around the world is extremely technical... a mystery to those not involved in the process. During Roving Sands 2001, a group of Air Force planners was able to break down the complicated process and learned how to maintain and resupply an air force during a major conflict.

Working from the 8th Air Force Headquarters, geographically separated from the air planning conducted in the Combined Air Operations Center here, the Air Force Forces, or AFFOR, team took on the daunting task of maintaining a lifeline of supplies that could make or break a mobile, modern military operation. From providing aircraft and spare parts, munitions and fuel, to the movement of troops and reserve manpower, the team provided the “beds, beans and bullets” necessary to sustain the aerospace operation.

“This is the first time we’ve exercised the AFFOR during Roving Sands,” said Col. Michael Reese, Deputy Commander of the Air Force Forces. “It was a complicated process that we were able to get our arms around and learn the best way to support a theater aerospace operation.”

In charge of all Air Force assets in a given theater, the AFFOR has operational control of all units and aircraft, and takes care of the infrastructure and personnel assigned. “Our basic job is the basing and supplying of our deployed troops while they’re in the field,” said Col. Myrna Fuller, Battle Staff director and chief of logistics. “If people don’t have the tools



Photo by Master Sgt. Rick DelaHaya

Master Sgt. Kathy Arehart (L), and Tech. Sgt. Lea Smith, both from the 608th Air Support Squadron, review the status of water and food supplies from various bases during Roving Sands 2001. Working from the Combat Support Center, the two service specialists were responsible for resupplying critical items.

to do their job, and if the aircraft aren’t flying, then it is an AFFOR problem and we’re not doing our job.”

During the mock wargame, team members received inputs from the Air Force Command and Control Training and Innovation Group from Hurlburt Field, Fla., and the Joint Exercise Control Group at Fort Bliss, Texas. These exercise controllers passed scenarios that required action by the AFFOR, such as explosions on weapons build-up pads, the need for additional water and Meals Ready to Eat, to requesting movement of troops.

During one scenario, an airman was killed when the fuel truck he was driving struck a bridge, crippling it when the truck exploded. To the outsider, it might seem a simple fix. However, this one accident caused a chain reaction among the AFFOR team.

“This was typical of the kind of ‘injects’ we received,” explained Fuller. “From this one event, our logistics personnel had to work together to get more fuel, with Civil Engineering to repair the bridge, Mortuary Affairs for the killed airman, and

personnel to replace him. So you can see it can be quite a complicated process.”

The key piece to the puzzle is the Combat Support Center, according to Lt. Col. David Parker, CSC director, who is quick to credit his staff for easing the process.

“We take immediate action and help resolve the situation. That may mean we have one to eight different action agencies working together responding to one issue. They are the primary piece in maintaining the war effort.”

Since this was the third time the AFFOR has been involved in a major exercise, the planners were able to quickly insert themselves into the battle and coordinate for all needed items necessary to keep the planes in the air and the troops on the ground supplied.

“We showed that even though we weren’t directing or executing the war, we were a vital link to its success,” added Reese. “The success of any aerospace operation depends on the ability of its forces to resupply and sustain itself. And that’s what we were able to do.”

Eighth Air Force Salutes!

Awards

The following individuals were named the 8th Air Force Information Managers of the Quarter:

Master Sgt. Mary Hammon
8th Air Force Protocol

Tech. Sgt. Vanerra Reddic
608th Combat Plans Squadron

Graduation

The following individuals graduated from the Barksdale Airman Leadership School, June 21, 2001.

Senior Airman Charles Brezial Jr.
8th Air Force Command Section

Senior Airman Joseph Forsten
26th Operational Weather Squadron

Senior Airman Michael Gilkes
608th Air Communications
Squadron

Editors note: Due to the unreliable data provided in PC-III/MilMod, no promotions were available for the month of July. A complete list of July and August Promotions will be posted in next month's issue as well as a complete list of the headquarter's newest staff sergeant selectees.

Sports Day 2001 slated for August 31

Time to dust off those running shoes and get back to the gym because 8th Air Force Sports Day is back! Friday, August 31 is the official day of battle, and this year promises fun and excitement with a little bit of competition to top it all off.

During Sports Day 2001, the "Mighty Eighth" will divide into the following four groups:

Command Staff which will include the Command Section, Staff Agencies, A-1 and A-4

Air Operations Group which will include the Group, A-3, A-5, TF204, 26th OWS, and IWF.

A-2

A-6

Points will be awarded for participation, as well as first, second and third place finishers in each event. All morning events, which include the 5K run/walk, cycling, sit-up/push-up con-

test, softball, basketball, racquetball, bowling, volleyball and golf will count towards the overall winner, with the tug-of-war as the final event.

This year's final attractions will be the obstacle course challenge that pits junior enlisted against junior officers, and the "Stars and Stripes" softball game in which the senior enlisted challenge the senior officers. A home run derby will be held during the 5th inning stretch.

The day concludes with a picnic and awards ceremony to crown the Sports Day 2001 Champions. Continue to check your e-mail for more information.

One final note...Sports Day 2001 is an organized headquarters program to enhance esprit de corps, unit cohesion, camaraderie and athleticism. It is not an opportunity to take the day off. If you aren't participating, you are expected to be at your duty section. Hopefully, all will join us on the "field of battle."



Aerospace Warrior Attitude



Staff Sgt. Jamie Vancise

608th Air Communication Squadron

Years of service: 5 years, 1 month

Hometown: Balko, Okla.

Family: Husband, Jenson; Father, James J. Pierce; Mother, Lynn Ramos

Job title: Plans & Engineering Flight Information Manager

Primary duties: Managing distribution; routing, suspense, & review of incoming/outgoing paperwork/OPRs/EPRs/Decs; Workgroup Manager for 30-man office; ADPE Custodian.

Goals: Get an assignment to Colorado, get in gear and get a Degree in Communications and Business, and go to OTS!

Hobbies: Spending time with my beautiful husband!! Anything active; teaching Tae Bo and aerobics; reading good books; and of course, going out to dinner and a movie.

What motivates your winning attitude: Being thankful that I get to wake up, enjoy life to the fullest, smile, and make a difference in other peoples lives.

Favorite aspects of Barksdale: All of the pretty trees and a good surrounding community.

Editor's note: To nominate an Aerospace Warrior, the individual's supervisor should call the Public Affairs office at 456-2156. Please include the person's full name, rank and phone number.

● WRAP UP, from page 1

educated on what each of us brings to the fight, and we learned how to fight as one force.”

The CAOC is a high-pressure coalition melting pot, combining the talents and efforts of the different services and allies, into a single multiservice, multinational command and control headquarters. Working from a sea of computers that contain some of the most sophisticated technology in the Air Force, operators at the center had the primary mission to support the Joint Forces Commander at Fort Bliss, Texas, for the aerospace portion of the overall campaign.

This year, the “Mighty Eighth” hosted more than 700 of the 15,000 people that took part in Roving Sands. The annual exercise is the world’s largest joint theater air and missile defense training that combines all the air defense and aviation assets into one joint, integrated air-defense scenario.

Outside of an actual war, the participants here were able to gain valuable hands-on experience through simulation on how aerospace power is employed at the theater level. Using assets that would be available in an actual conflict, strategies and tactics were mapped out and executed using not only leading-edge computer and communications technology, but also intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance systems.

“This is the second exercise since we’ve integrated Information Operations and Information Warfare into Eighth Air Force and the CAOC, and we’ve proved its importance,” said Col. Craig Koziol, 8th Air Force vice commander. “We had great support during the exercise as we integrated all the IO and IW functions into the campaign, and built tremendous synergies between our sister services and allied partners.”

Roving Sands began this year with four days of academic and seminar training, focusing on skills needed to run a fully functioning CAOC. This was followed by a one-day dress rehearsal mini-exercise, and then an intense air battle using live fly aircraft flying in the ranges of New Mexico, and realistic simulated friendly and enemy forces, contingency and war

plans, and theater procedures. The participants were given maximum flexibility to manage friendly forces and to influence the battle outcome, all the time learning what went right and what could have been improved.

“One of the most important aspects of this exercise is the team building and the lessons learned,” added Keck. “We’re always learning, and we take those lessons learned and document and institutionalize them so we can integrate the effort into a total aerospace team process.”

Among those participating in the exercise, the 32nd Air and Missile Defense Command, from Fort Bliss, Texas, collocated part of their operations here, while the remainder stayed in Texas. According to the unit’s commander, Brig. Gen. Michael Vane, participating from here for the first time helped his controllers gain valuable insight into what goes on at the CAOC.

“We’re trying to improve the joint theater missile interoperability of putting electrons, airplanes and missiles all in the same airspace,” he said. “Being here at the Barksdale, we can have the direct face-to-face contact with all the key planners. If something goes wrong, or a process needs improving, we could correct it on the spot. Coordination is the major key to any success, and to be here and able to coordinate our ground-based air defense system with the other functional areas has allowed us to be better trained and see where we fit into the larger scheme.”

Beside members from Eighth Air Force, other exercise participants included the 1st Battlefield Coordination Detachment from Fort Bragg, N.C.; German, Dutch, Turkish and Royal Air Force members; and augmentees from 9th Air Force, Shaw AFB, S.C., and 12th Air Force, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz. The Air Force Command and Control Training and Innovation



Photo by Master Sgt. Rick DeLaHaya

Staff Sgt. Scott Rumfield, air analyst with the 608th Air Intelligence Squadron, plots enemy aircraft locations during Roving Sands 2001.

Group from Hurlburt Field, Fla., also took part, as well as members from various other Navy, Marine and Air Force units throughout the United States. During the 10-day exercise, operators were able to hone skills and draw on experiences from past operations while working to provide a better-integrated team effort.

“We had some of the brightest and the best come here to our training center,” said Keck. “They proved that integration is crucial to future coalition efforts. We continue to lay the groundwork on how we’ll train and fight together. I’m proud of the strides we’ve made here in the last 10 days...we’ve set the bar high and will apply the lessons learned to future exercises, such as Blue Flag, a joint exercise of equal magnitude, in February 2002.”

As to the quality of the force that took part in Roving Sands 2001, Keck added, “I’d take this group to fight any war, anytime, anywhere on the globe!”

A-4 secretary retires

By Master Sgt. Rick DelaHaya
8th Air Force Public Affairs

In 1951, color television was introduced in the United States. Most people still had black and white sets that were tuned into "Candid Camera" and the debut of the "I Love Lucy" show. Movie-goers were packing the theaters to see "An American in Paris," "A Streetcar Named Desire," and "The African Queen." The 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution limiting the number of terms a president could serve, was ratified. And Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were sentenced to death for passing atomic secrets to the Russians.

It was also the year Eloise Putsch began her civil-service career.

Now, after 42 years, two months and 18 days of service, the secretary with the 608th Air Support Squadron has finally called it quits, and retired July 2.

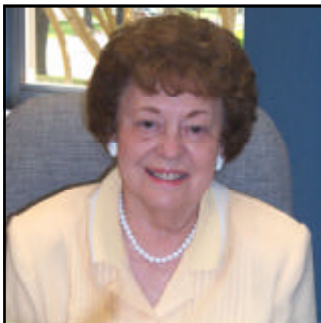
"I think I'll finally have time now to travel and visit my grandchildren," she said. "I'll probably do a lot of volunteer work at my church as well. I might even take piano lessons. So, I'll

have plenty to keep me busy."

The Marthaville, La., native moved to Shreveport after her high school graduation, and enrolled and graduated from Business College. Soon after, at 18-years old, she took the Civil Service examination and was hired immediately at 2nd Air Force as secretary to the chief of the equipment branch in the supply division.

"The thing I remember most about the job was the condition of the building," she added. "The walls weren't finished, pipes were exposed, and the biggest thing...no air conditioning. Back then, we all used to wear dresses to work and I would constantly get my dress stuck in the buzz fans!"

Working until 1956, Putsch took a seven-



year leave of absence, to care for her three children. She returned to civil service and was assigned to the Ninth District Office of Special Investigations. Missing life in the headquarters, she requested and received a transfer back to 2nd Air Force. Three short years later, Putsch was off to Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., home to Strategic Air Command.

"I had never been out of Louisiana before I received my assignment," she said. "I almost froze to death."

After almost three years braving the elements, her family, including her fourth child, was transferred back to Barksdale. After another leave of absence, and the addition of her fifth child, she was back to work at the headquarters, where she was later promoted to secretary to the director of administration. She worked in this position for more than 17 years. After 2nd Air Force changed to the current "Mighty Eighth," Putsch eventually landed a job in logistics, where she has remained.

I loved every minute that I've been here," she added. "I've seen a lot of changes and met a lot of people. In fact, that's what I'll miss the most, all the people I've come in contact with."

"Mighty Eighth" Commander Profile Lt. Col. Philip Riede

Squadron: 608th Air Intelligence Squadron

Family: wife Maj. Karen Ried; daughters, Courtney and Kaylea

Hometown (City and State): Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Past Assignments:

Analysis Branch chief, 60th Airlift Wing, Travis AFB, Calif.; Intelligence Branch chief, 22nd Air Force, Travis AFB, Calif.; Intelligence Liaison Branch, Red Flag, Nellis AFB, Nev.; Intelligence Inspection Branch chief, Military Airlift Command Inspector General, Scott AFB, Ill.; director of Intelligence, 317th Tactical Aircraft Wing, Pope AFB, N.C.; chief of Intelligence, 5th Tactical Air Control Group, Suwon Air Base, Republic of Korea; Analysis and Briefing Branch chief, 6th Tactical Intelligence Group, Osan AB, Republic of Korea; chief of Intelligence, 1st Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Defense Language Institute student, Monterrey, Calif.; U.S. Army Command and General Staff College student, School of Americas, Fort Benning, Ga.; Directorate for Unified Command Support, J2, chief of staff, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.; executive secretary, Military Intelligence Board, Defense Intelligence Agency, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.; 25th Intelligence Squadron commander, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; chief of Inspections, Office of the Inspector General, Headquarters Air Intelligence Agency, Kelly AFB, Texas; Inspector General, Air Intelligence Agency, Kelly AFB, Texas

Education:

Bachelor of arts degree in political science, University of Kansas; Master of science degree in international relations, Webster University, Mo.; Squadron Officers School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama; Defense Language Institute – Spanish, Monterrey, Calif.; U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, School of the

America's, Fort Benning, Ga.; U.S. Army Airborne Course, Fort Benning, Ga.; Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va.; Air War College

Off-duty time is for:

Family

Hobbies: Golf, reading, fitness

Goals: Position the 608th AIS as the AF premier ISR authority for CAOC operations and training; Work with other 8th Air Force leaders to make Information Operations a reality for 8th Air Force and the CAF; ensure we have the best trained and taken care of personnel in the world.

What challenges do you foresee as a squadron commander:

Balancing time and resource limitations to reach these goals and not being overwhelmed by them.

Advice to those pursuing an Air Force career: This is the very best time to be in our Air Force. On the foundation of an historic past, we are building a new century Air Force and need all the brainpower, enthusiasm, dedication, and hard work we can find. Embrace the challenges and lead this fight in every AFSC and job. It'll be worth it for you and the nation.



